

**BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

In the Matter of the Revocation	)	
	)	
or Suspension of the Educator	)	CONSENT ORDER OF
	)	
Certificate of John MacDonald	)	VOLUNTARY SUSPENSION
	)	
Certificate # 215797	)	

**SUMMARY OF THE CASE**

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on March 9, 2004. On January 2, 2004, the State Department of Education (Department) sent a notice of a hearing concerning the possible suspension or revocation of his South Carolina educator certificate # 215797 (certificate) to Mr. John MacDonald by certified mail, return receipt requested, delivery restricted to addressee. Mr. Macdonald received the notice as evidenced by the signed postal receipt bearing his signature. Mr. MacDonald initially requested a hearing, but subsequently agreed to resolve this matter by accepting a voluntary suspension of his certificate for two years. This suspension will be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the voluntary suspension of Mr. MacDonald's certificate from March 9, 2004, through March 8, 2006, upon the terms set forth above.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

Mr. MacDonald holds a South Carolina certificate through the Program for Alternative Certification of Educators (PACE). Mr. MacDonald held an induction contract with Lexington County School District One (District) for the 2003-2004 school year as a teacher at White Knoll Middle School. On October 3, 2003, the District placed Mr. MacDonald on administrative leave, after an investigation into allegations that he acted inappropriately towards and in the presence of students, parents, and administrators, and that he failed to adhere to school and district policies and procedures. On October 21, 2003, the District Board voted to terminate Mr. MacDonald's employment.

John  
MacDonald  
#215797

\_\_\_\_\_  
Initials

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

“The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (1990). Just cause includes: “Unprofessional conduct.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (1990). The State Board finds that the preponderance of the evidence presented supports its decision to accept the voluntary suspension of Mr. MacDonald’s certificate # 215797, from March 9, 2004, through March 8, 2006. At the end of the suspension period, if he wants his certificate reinstated, Mr. MacDonald must make a written request to the Office of Teacher Education and Certificate of the Department.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Mary E. Jones  
Dr. Mary E. Jones  
Chair

Columbia, South Carolina  
March 9, 2004

I, John MacDonald, SC Teaching Certificate # 215797, do hereby agree to the proposed Consent Order of Suspension, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented as signed to the State Board of Education on Tuesday, March 9, 2004, for approval.

/S/ John MacDonald  
John MacDonald

2/29/04  
Date